

**08.02.09 – Mark 3:7-21****Materials Needed**

Lyrics to the “Apostles Song” (attached)

Listed names of the Apostles (attached)

True/False list (attached); reward for winning team (stickers or balloons, etc.)

Read Mark 3: 13-19

Activity

All children:

Play “Follow the Leader” – clap, hop, turn around, put arms up, hands on hips.

Remind children that Jesus was a leader, and He chose twelve early followers, or disciples.

Introduce children to the names of the twelve disciples (attached).

Review the lyrics to the “Apostles Song” and sing with the children. (Lyrics attached)

Divide children into groups, mixing older and younger and challenge them to play the True/False game after you read the lesson.

Read lesson: Mark 3:13-19.

Play true/ false game; reward for winning team

Discussion

Question 1: What does it mean to be a leader? (Encourage children to think about the person who has ideas, who steps forward and is willing to do set positive examples; ask for examples in today’s world)

Question 2: What does it mean to be a follower? (Encourage children to consider themselves, or their peers; a person who follows those that sets positive examples)

Question 3: We sang a song about the apostles today, and played a true/false game about how they were followers. How can we be followers of Jesus today?

Question 4: A good leader is someone who knows how to lead people where they should go. Jesus is the only TRULY GOOD leader ever because He never lead people the wrong way. What does Jesus lead us to? (He leads us to follow Him because HE IS THE ONLY GOOD LEADER, and HE KNOWS THE WAY TO THE FATHER – If we’re only trying to be like Jesus and do good things, we’re doing things by our own strength, but when we believe that Jesus is Lord and that He died to save us from our sins, He gives us the very Spirit of God to live inside of us – so when we truly FOLLOW Jesus as our leader, God works through us, and we can do good things because of His power in our lives)

Summary

This is a story about Jesus choosing his twelve disciples. There are many different versions of this in the four Gospels. This particular version has Jesus appointing the twelve disciples as he “went up a mountainside”. The verses explain that He will be with them, and send them out to preach. Mark 3:15-“They would have authority to drive out demons.”

The next verses name the twelve that he has appointed. Use these verses, along with the song, to encourage the children to remember the names of the disciples.

Questions to think about:

1. What is a disciple? (a person who follows a leader and tells others about Him)



2. Why did Jesus choose these men? They were not famous. They were not even the Pharisees. (He wanted to use common people to attract people to follow Jesus, and He chose to use people who were often considered foolish to teach the so-called wise people what it meant to truly follow God)
3. Why did people begin to follow the apostles? (because they followed Jesus, and the people saw that Jesus was a good leader)
4. How can we be disciples today? (by following the examples of Jesus and his disciples)

Lesson: We should learn as much as we can about these twelve men that Jesus chose to be His first apostles or disciples. We should also try to set a positive example by being disciples today and demonstrating God's love.

True/False Game

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| 1. Jesus offered to pay his disciples. | False |
| 2. There were 20 disciples. | False |
| 3. Some of the disciples were related. | True |
| 4. Two of the Disciples were given the names "Sons of Thunder". | True |
| 5. Jesus' followers were all rich and educated. | False |